

1 Joseph D. Ehle
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4
5 **THE HONORABLE**

6 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
7 **EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON**
8 **AT SPOKANE**

9 MARK STRONG, a single
person,

10 Plaintiff,

11 vs.

12 STATE OF WASHINGTON,
13 WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
14 CORRECTIONS, AIRWAY
HEIGHTS CORRECTIONS
15 CENTER, and
16 SUPERINTENDENT JAMES R.
KEY,

17 Defendants.
18

NO.

DECLARATION OF JOSEPH
EHLE

19 Joseph Ehle declares and states as follows:

- 20 1. I am the Washington State Assistant Attorney General for Defendants
21 State of Washington, Washington State Department of Corrections,
22 Airway Heights Corrections Center, and James R. Key in the above
23 entitled action, I am a member in good standing of the Washington State
24 Bar Association, and admitted to practice before the United States District
25 Court for the Eastern District of Washington.
26

1 2. Plaintiff Mark Strong filed the initial complaint on November 16, 2020 in
2 the Spokane County Superior Court of the State of Washington (the “State
3 Court Action”) against defendants State of Washington, Washington State
4 Department of Corrections, Airway Heights Corrections Center, and James
5 Key. The State Court Action was assigned cause number 20-2-03165-32.
6 The Summons and Complaint were served on the Attorney General’s
7 Office in Spokane, Washington on November 17, 2020. *See* attachments to
8 Defendants’ Notice of Removal.

9 3. I filed a Notice of Appearance on behalf of Defendants on November 20,
10 2020. *See* attachments to Defendants’ Notice of Removal.

11 4. I have obtained a copy of the Spokane County Superior Court file in Cause
12 No. 20-2-03165-32. The entire contents of the file is attached to
13 Defendants’ Notice of Removal.

14 5. All Defendants consent to removal of this action in compliance with 28
15 U.S.C. 1446(b)(2)(A), (C).

16 I declare under the penalty of perjury under the law of the United States
17 and the State of Washington that the foregoing is true and correct.

18 DATED this 15th day of December, 2020.

19 ROBERT W. FERGUSON
20 Attorney General

21 s/Joseph D. Ehle
22 JOSEPH D. EHLE, WSBA No. 52549
23 Assistant Attorney General
24 Attorneys for Defendant
25 1116 W. Riverside, Suite 100
26 Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 456-3123
Joseph.Ehle@atg.wa.gov

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I caused to be electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which will send notification of such filing to the following:

Douglas D. Phelps
Phelps and Associates, P.S.
2903 N. Stout Road
Spokane, WA 99206

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 15th day of December, 2020.

ROBERT W. FERGUSON
Attorney General

s/Joseph D. Ehle
JOSEPH D. EHLE, WSBA No. 52549
Assistant Attorney General
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